



*The Best of Oregon*

# CITY of BEAVERTON

## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## BEAVERTON STUDENTS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS CREATIVE EXPRESSION CONTEST

**BEAVERTON, Ore.** – The city of Beaverton Human Rights Advisory Commission (HRAC) is now accepting entries for its annual Creative Expression Contest. The contest gives Beaverton-area students, grades K-12, an opportunity to express their ideas about the importance of human and civil rights.

“In 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was signed by members of the United Nations,” said Mayor Denny Doyle. “These rights give us equality through justice, opportunity and dignity without discrimination. Each year I gain new insight about human rights because of the fresh perspectives the youth in our community present.”

Creativity is highly encouraged and entries may take the form of any artistic medium, including poems, stories, essays, original songs or other musical compositions, any type of two- or three-dimensional artwork, film, dance, or any combination of these.

Participants should convey the importance of respect and acceptance at school, home, in your community or in the world—whether they see it or not. Students may tell about a personal experience from their life or the life of their family, write about a time they felt included or excluded or saw this happening to someone else. Students may also share something about a civil rights hero or imagine a world in which everyone lives and works together in peace.

Submissions must be received by the city of Beaverton’s Human Resources Department at City Hall (4755 SW Griffith Drive) by 5 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 28. Entry forms are available at [www.BeavertonOregon.gov/Creative](http://www.BeavertonOregon.gov/Creative).

Informational flyers can be found at all Beaverton City Libraries, Powell’s Books at Cedar Hills, the Human Resources Department at City Hall, Beaverton schools, or online at [www.BeavertonOregon.gov/Creative](http://www.BeavertonOregon.gov/Creative).

Prizes will be awarded in three categories: elementary school, middle school and high school. The first place winner in each category will receive a \$50 gift card to Powell’s Books. Two runner-up winners in each category will receive a \$25 Powell’s gift card. All winners will be celebrated at a reception and televised awards ceremony at a City Council meeting in

May. A binder of all entries is kept in the Young Adult Room of the Beaverton City Library for a full year; winning films can be viewed online. Entries may be submitted by an individual, in pairs, with a small group or as a classroom project, however, only one prize will be awarded per entry.

"Each year, this program baffles Commissioners with tremendous choices," said Rob Solomon, HRAC chair. "Picking the winners is a challenge, but seeing the wide variety of ideas, thoughtfulness and innovative ways of expressing those ideas is an event our commissioners look forward to each year."

For more information, please contact HRAC at 503-526-2569 or email [hrac@BeavertonOregon.gov](mailto:hrac@BeavertonOregon.gov).

Beaverton enjoys one of the most diverse populations among Oregon cities. Most recently, the city was awarded the **2012 Mayors' Climate Protection Award** from the U.S. Conference of Mayors. It was one of just four cities of its size recently recognized as a "**Smarter City**" **energy leader by the Natural Resources Defense Council** and **one of the 100 Best Places to Live in America** by *Money* magazine. In addition, Beaverton has been named **one of the safest cities in the Pacific Northwest** for three consecutive years, as one of the **best places to raise kids** by *BusinessWeek* magazine, an **All-America City finalist**, as **one of the top 25 Suburbs for Retirement** by *Forbes.com*, **one of the 100 Best Walking Cities in America** by *Prevention* magazine, the **Recycler of the Year** from the Association of Oregon Recyclers, a **Tree City USA** by the Arbor Day Foundation, a **Bronze Award Bicycle Friendly Community** designation by the League of American Bicyclists and as one of the Environmental Protection Agency's **Green Power Communities**, the Beaverton Community Vision program was named **Public Involvement Project of the Year—Best Planning Project** by the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Cascade Chapter. For more information, please visit [www.BeavertonOregon.gov](http://www.BeavertonOregon.gov) or follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/cityofbeaverton](http://www.facebook.com/cityofbeaverton).

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